

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated June 26, 1995, the Examiner rejected (i) Claims 1, 2, 7 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Gerber; (ii) Claims 3-5 and 8-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being anticipated over Gerber in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,022,528 issued to Savoy; (iii) Claims 6 and 15 under §103 over Gerber, in view of Savoy and Yamazoe; and Claim 11 under §103 over Gerber in view of Savoy and Wand. In response, Applicant has amended independent Claims 1, 7 and 16.

A. Rejection Under §102(b)

The Examiner contends that although the compartment is a double (walled) panel, the rear panel (34R) is a single walled panel that is removably coupled to the cylindrical tube. Applicant has amended Claims 1, 7 and 16 to include the limitation that the outer surface of the panel member is visible from the exterior surface of the golf bag. This limitation is not disclosed in Gerber since the rear panel (34R) is an interior panel of the compartment. As a result, Applicant respectfully asserts that the claimed invention is neither anticipated by Gerber and requests the Examiner to withdraw his rejection.

B. Rejection Under §103

The Examiner rejected Claims 3-11 and 15 under §103 as cited above. Applicant respectfully asserts that in lieu of the newly added limitation, the Examiner has not presented a prima facie case of obviousness because none of the cited references disclose, teach or suggest a "single-walled panel member having an outer surface that is "visible when said single-walled panel member is attached to the golf bag". Additionally, with respect to an additional limitation presented in newly amended Claim 7, the cited references do not disclose, teach

or suggest that the panel member is made of "material forming said exterior surface of the golf bag".


CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and such allowance at the Examiner's earliest convenience is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on: September 26, 1995.


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Date